

**Hampton Beach Area Commission  
100 Winnacunnet Road  
Hampton, New Hampshire 03842  
Hampton Police Station – 2nd Floor Training Room  
7 PM  
January 28, 2010**

**In Attendance:**

John Nyhan, Chairman, Town of Hampton  
Bill Watson, Vice Chairman, NH Department of Transportation  
Brian Warburton, Secretary/Treasurer, DRED (Seacoast Parks/Recreation)  
Richard Griffin, Town of Hampton  
Geannina Guzman-Scanlan- Hampton Beach Village District  
Lenny Paul – Hampton Beach Village District  
Fran McMahon- Rockingham Planning Commission  
Bob Preston- Hampton Chamber of Commerce  
Richard Sawyer, Citizen at Large

Jamie Steffen- Hampton Town Planner (Administration)  
Candice Sicard- Secretary

**AGENDA**

1. Introduction of Commissioners
2. Public Comment Session – related to agenda items

No comments

3. Review & approval of 12/17/09 Minutes

Page 1:

Changed: Carol McCean to Carol McKeon

Added: Date in header 12/17/09

Changed: Brian Warburton, Vice Chairman, DRED (Seacoast Parks/Recreation)

Bill Watson, Secretary/Treasurer- NH Department of Transportation to Brian Warburton,  
Secretary/Treasurer, DRED (Seacoast Parks/Recreation)

Bill Watson, Vice Chairman - NH Department of Transportation

**MOVED** by Mr. Warburton to approve the 12/17/09 minutes as amended

**SECOND** by Mr. Watson

**VOTE:**

**9-0-0**

**MOTION PASSED**

## Old Business

### 1. Beach Project Update (Nyhan/Warburton)

Mr. Warburton introduced Mike Houseman, Operations Supervisor from DRED State Parks Division.

Mr. Houseman, representing Ted Austin, stated after an extensive proposal and review process, Harvey Construction of Bedford NH has been chosen for the Hampton Beach State Park Redevelopment Project. Mr. Houseman said that they are looking forward to beginning the project in the next few months. Mr. Preston asked when construction was to begin and he answered sometime shortly after March 10, 2010 which is the date the NH Governor's Council is expected to formally approve the contract. Their final bid was noted and included the cost of the currently unfunded visitor center. Mr. McMahon asked if there was a staging site selected yet and Mr. Houseman said that this has not been done yet. Chairman Nyhan did note during the proposal process there was an understanding that they would be working out of the state park area, but this is yet to be officially determined. Mr. Paul asked if the bid was firm and this was affirmed by Mr. Houseman. Mr. Sawyer noted that he has already had correspondence with the bidders regarding a safety plan, and that one would be in place for the construction process. Chairman Nyhan said that as part of the communications process he hopes to have Harvey Construction attend a meeting during March or April to answer questions the Commission may have at that time.

Mr. Warburton also mentioned the start of Phase III of the seawall construction as well this coming spring.

### 2. Beach Infrastructure Project Update (Griffin)

Chairman Nyhan, Mr. Griffin, Representative Nancy Stiles and Town Manager Mr. Welch are all working with Senator Gregg's office regarding the completion of the infrastructure improvements for the seven streets off Ashworth Ave. There was discussion about possible funding sources including the Department of Agriculture's rural division. Mr. Griffin said the last he heard the Senator was going to facilitate meetings with the above agencies in order to ensure all federal funding capabilities have been exhausted.

### 3. Ocean Blvd Road Project Update (Watson)

Mr. Watson refreshed the Commission of the last meeting that was held with legislative leaders to talk about improvements to Ocean Boulevard and funding sources. He noted that Commissioner Campbell was supportive of this and he also noted that the improvements would include roadways, sidewalk and drainage. He said that he left the meeting feeling positive. Shortly after that meeting, Commissioner Campbell had a meeting with the House Public Works Committee. He indicated that the Committee Chairperson Ms. Bouchard put the idea forward to her colleagues and they were not as supportive as expected. That being said the Commissioner still supports the project and

thinks that it is the right time to do it. There was discussion about funding sources and match requirements. Mrs. Guzman-Scanlan noted that they are looking for 4.6 million and that one avenue to think about was the economic benefits and potential for job creation.

**MOVED** by Mr. McMahon to solicit information and provide support documentation regarding the project to the NH Public Works Committee and to have the Commission closely monitor the process up in Concord.

**SECOND** by Mr. Griffin

**VOTE:**

**9-0-0**

**MOTION PASSED**

4. Parking Study Update (Warburton)

Mr. Warburton said that he spoke with Mr. Walker from the RPC who has received the latest areal photos and information. Mr. Warburton said he plans to meet next month with the RPC and Mr. Rice in order to get all the information that has been collected to date and then he will facilitate a meeting to move the study forward. Chairman Nyhan reminded the Commissioners that the RPC had given the Commission a small stipend to work on the study and they have extended this to 2010 in order to allow more time for data collection and evaluation.

5. Recent Legislative Correspondence (Nyhan)

Chairman Nyhan reviewed with the Commissioners the letters that were sent to different NH House Committees regarding legislative bills impacting the Hampton Beach Area. He also provided some updates on the different bills that he had received from Representative Stiles earlier that day.

HB1461 regarding the municipal regulation of martial arts weapons was approved by the first House Committee and will go to the full House for approval. It then will go to the House Ways and Means Committee for review, then back to the full House again, and then to the Senate side. Representative Stiles said that she was happy that the bill has already moved to the full House.

HB1485 regarding separate beach planning and zoning power which was not supported by the Commission was still in Committee with a vote expected shortly.

HB1520 regarding trash at the beach which was supported by the Commission was going to the full House for approval. Mr. Paul commented on the trash bill and Mr. Sawyer's comments regarding increase police hours to enforce this. Mr. Warburton said that they are also increasing the number of barrels this year.

Chairman Nyhan said that currently there was a House/Senate Committee established to review all State established committees and commissions and their effectiveness. There will be decisions made in order to determine what commissions etc. will be retained, be removed or be combined with other organizations. It was noted that there was a letter sent supporting the retention of the HBAC. After discussion this afternoon with Representative Stiles, Chairman Nyhan stated there was a formal 3-2 vote to retain the HBAC, and this will go to the full House for a vote.

6. Town Zoning Warrant re: beach (McMahon/Preston)

Mr. McMahon said that there will be a warrant article on the ballot in March to change the zoning on Ocean Blvd from Ashworth Ave to the North Side of N Street to have non-residential uses on the first floor of the buildings for the first 25 feet of depth. There was discussion about the implications of the article. Mr. Warburton, Mr. Griffin, Mr. Paul and Mr. McMahon support the article. Mrs. Guzman-Scanlan supports the article but noted she had not read it completely. Mr. Preston said his support would depend on how many shops were added, and expressed his thought that too many shops would result in empty stores. Mr. Watson abstained from comment.

7. Other Old Business

None

New Business

1. Commission's involvement – Beach Redevelopment Project/NH Arts Council (Guzman-Scanlon)

Chairman Nyhan said when Harvey Construction was chosen, as part of their bid there was money set aside for the NH Arts Council to recommend a variety of pieces of art that will be showcased throughout the project locations. Mrs. Guzman-Scanlan, who is our representative to the NH Arts Council, said she attended the first meeting which was exciting and showed definite potential for enhancing the appearance of the beach. The program, enacted by NH Legislature, allows for \$67,000 for artistic elements to be displayed throughout the Beach Project. She said that there would soon be an RFP for the arts project and hopes local talent will submit their ideas. There was discussion about locations of art elements.

2. Commission & DRED proposed strategy meeting – Visitors Center

Chairman Nyhan said that he hopes by next week to meet with DRED to start the strategy discussion regarding funding for the visitors center. There are two letters of intent for funding with the CMAQ and Scenic Byways programs. There was discussion about other funding sources and Chairman Nyhan said that he welcomes any other Commissioners to get involved in this process noting that this will require additional time outside the normally scheduled meetings.

### 3. Commission's Administrative Clerk financial support

Chairman Nyhan gave a brief history of the Commission and their record keeping, noting that in 2009 there was a private donation in order to hire someone to take meeting minutes. Ms. Sicard was selected to do so and at this time funding has been depleted. In order to maintain her services further funding (approximately \$500-1000) is needed to be found.

**MOVED** by Chairman Nyhan to have Mr. Warburton contact DRED to inquire about if there was any money within the beach redevelopment project budget associated to communication and community awareness that could be used to retain the services of Ms. Sicard.

**SECOND** by Mr. McMahon

**VOTE:**

**9-0-0**

**MOTION PASSED**

### 4. Commission's strategy regarding a (Underwood) bridge engineering study

It was noted that Representative Stiles reminded Chairman Nyhan that she wanted to facilitate a meeting with Mr. Sawyer to look for funding for an engineering study for the Underwood Bridge. There was discussion about the 10 year plan and the inclusion of this study, it was noted that there may be better sources of funding.

### 5. Other New Business

Mr. Warburton recommended changing the normally scheduled meeting for February from the 25<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup>. It was noted that assuming channel 22 and the police training room were available, the meeting will be moved to February 18, 2010

Mr. Preston spoke about the deliberative session and the trash pickup. He said that he didn't like hearing about cutting commercial trash and would like people to speak up at the deliberative session on January 30, 2010 at 8:30 am about this.

**MOVED** by Mr. Griffin to have the Commission speak against this warrant article at the annual Town's deliberative session.

**SECOND** by Mr. Preston

**VOTE:**

**9-0-0**

**MOTION PASSED**

Chairman Nyhan wanted to impress upon the Commissioners their responsibility to represent their assigned organization and to keep them abreast on the HBAC's activities.

**MOVED** by Mr. Warburton to adjourn by

**SECOND** by Mr. Watson

**VOTE:**

**9-0-0**

**MOTION PASSED**

Meeting Adjourned at 8:33pm

